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TO: Examiner Dennis W. Ruhl  
COMPANY: USPTO  
FAX NUMBER: 703.872.9306  
PHONE NUMBER:  
RE: Response to Restriction Requirement

FROM: James R. Stevenson, Esquire  
DATE: 11/29/2004  
TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 4  
SENDER'S REFERENCE NUMBER: VI/02-022  
YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER: U.S. Serial No. 10/729,434

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URGENT    FOR REVIEW    PLEASE COMMENT    PLEASE REPLY    PLEASE RECYCLE

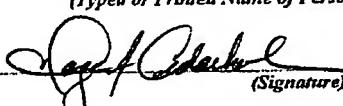
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NOTES/COMMENTS:

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United States of America

<b>CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE (37 CFR 1.8)</b>			Docket No. VI/02-022
Applicant(s): KALAFUT, et al.			
Application No. 10/729,434	Filing Date 12/6/2003	Examiner Dennis W. Ruhl	Group Art Unit 3737
Invention: <b>DEVICES, SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR IMPROVING VESSEL ACCESS</b>		RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER NOV 29 2004	
<p>I hereby certify that this <b>RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT</b> (Identify type of correspondence) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax. No. 703-872-9306 ) on <b>11/29/2004</b> (Date)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Page A. Cedarholm</b> (Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)  (Signature)</p> <p>Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</p>			

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: ) Group Art Unit: 3737  
KALAFUT et al. ) Examiner: Ruhl, Dennis W.  
Serial No. 10/729,434 )  
Filed: 6 December 2003 ) Docket No.: VI/02-022  
Title: DEVICES, SYSTEMS AND )  
METHODS FOR IMPROVING )  
VESSEL ACCESS ) Date: 29 November 2004

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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to telephone messages exchanged with Examiner Ruhl (703-308-2262) in regards to a Restriction Requirement, this Response points out that the Restriction Requirement was evidently made in error and Applicants herein respectfully request correction of said error.

In an Office Action mailed 28 October 2004, the Examiner alleges that the application contains 114 claims directed to three inventions. The above-cited application, however, contains only 72 claims, all of which directed to a single invention. Specifically, on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that:

1. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

Claims 1-84  
Claims 85-104  
Claims 105-114

Response To Restriction Requirement  
U.S. Application Serial No. 10/724,434  
Attorney Docket No. VI/02-022  
Page 2 of 2

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

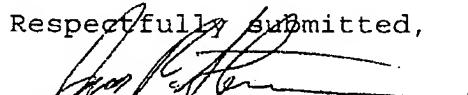
In one of the aforementioned telephone messages, the Examiner requested the filing of this Response as the prerequisite for him to withdraw or otherwise correct this erroneously issued Restriction Requirement. Applicants look forward to the correction of this error and thank the Examiner for his attention to same.

As mentioned in our telephone messages, this Response is being submitted by facsimile transmission to Examiner Ruhl at (703) 872-9306.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response To Restriction Requirement, he is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 38,755

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